From: Jason

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/1/02 6:00am

Subject: Microsoft Settlet

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Given the number of years that have passed since the trial began Microsoft have very much responded to criticism and in my view have made all efforts to remedy the situation.

Given that free operating systems are around (how competitive is that! - what if the situation existed with free cars!) and piracy is rife - if microsoft was ever judged a monopoly it was on its merits.

The level of piracy, the level of competition, all work to undermine microsofts efforts to conduct fair and legal trade. The settlement is fair and just in my opinion, if anything its too harsh. We all know how big business works, with coca cola signing exclusive deals with suppliers, sports stars signing contracts that mean they can only advertise with nike etc, so why microsoft should be held aloft on a pedestal for its alleged actions is beyond me.

If anything would be ultimately in the publics interest it would have been a long time ago that the whole matter was dropped. Right now, barring that, the best thing is for all parties to accept the settlement and for those competitiors of microsoft to stop trying to use the courts for finacial gain when instead they should employ smarter people, up the R & D, and increase the quality of their products.

Jason